

U.F.O.I.C. NEWSLETTER

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April/May, 1973

EDITORIAL

It is not very good to have to begin a New Year with an apology, but I have to do this. Firstly we have not been able to get a new Editor, so you are stuck with me again, and the second apology is for the late appearance of this Newsletter, the first for 1973. However, now that we are in business again, we will try to get on with it, and give you a good year of interesting reading. Please keep those sightings coming in. Attend our meetings, show some interest by buying our books and magazines. Buy our badges and show people that you belong to the Society. Buy and put on your car our car stickers. Don't be afraid any more of speaking about UFO's, they are now everyday chatter. What with the "Chariots of the Gods" and all it's publicity just about everyone now knows about UFO's, so let's find out more.

Later on in the year we will have a visit from Dr. Hynek, and we hope to get him to speak at one of our meetings. Take note of the new venue for our Public Meetings. Not in Adyar Hall any more, it is nearly 'no more'. The Meetings will be held in SCIENCE HOUSE, in Gloucester Street, the first being on June 5th—a Tuesday.

Make a note of the Members Social Meetings and a change of venue there too, they are now being held in the RAILWAY INSTITUTE, usually in Room 5. First meeting will be held on May 4th so come along and let us see what we have all being doing about UFO's for the first few weeks of this year. Time 7.30 pm. Railway Institute is the far end of Central Railway, the Tunnel end, and it is immediately on the right when you come up the steps from the railway, for the car drivers there is ample parking space around. Make a note of May 5th.

— Editor, V. EXLEY.

Our Secretary, Bill Moser, had a chance to interview Von Daniken, the well-known author of "Chariots of the Gods" and "Return to the Stars".

They had a two-hour conversation in Von Daniken's Sydney hotel room and it proved interesting from many angles.

Despite a coverage of interviews in most weekend papers, no further reports of his lectures have been seen.

We welcome any further views of readers who attended the lectures.

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At the Annual General Meeting of UFOIC held on December 5th, 1972, a group consisting of about 20 people tried to get control of UFOIC. The total number of members present was 37. Of the pressure group about 8 of them had only joined UFOIC two days before, and another has not been financial for over two years. Unfortunately the President was unable to be present at this A.G.M. and so it fell to the lot of the Vice President and Honorary Secretary, Bill Moser to chair the meeting. He immediately drew everyone's attention to the illegality of the group's action, a fact he had confirmed by legal advice the next day. He also told Members and friends to disregard any decisions taken that evening.

The UFOIC Committee for 1972 decided at their first meeting in January 1973, to carry on for this year with one or two additions to replace resignations. A new election for office bearers will be held at the last meeting of the year probably enabling members living outside Sydney and others unable to attend, to have a postal vote, and we hope everyone will agree to this form of election.

The pressure group, seeing they could not succeed, have now withdrawn from the society, and we have had over 40 letters from members approving the action the Committee took.

In case any member would require more information about this unfortunate matter, please contact the society, Box E170, St. James P.O., Sydney 2000.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Members Social Meetings. Dates are 1973.

MAY 4th, JUNE 29th, SEPTEMBER 7th, NOVEMBER 2nd. All will be held in the RAILWAY INSTITUTE. This is the far end from the clock of CENTRAL STATION, and beside the entrance, in Elizabeth Street, up the steps and to the right. Time is 7.30 pm. Meetings will usually be held in ROOM 5.

The Secretary thanks Mrs. Exley for her continued efforts to cope so well with her editorial duties on our behalf. It is with great regret that we learn of her leaving us to move to a new life in New Guinea. We wish both Vera and her husband, Holman every success in the future and hope they will manage to stay in touch with us. Our group relies so much on personal co-operation and effort that we only hope a new editor can soon feel in control of things. Such a position carries it's own real rewards.

NEW MEMBERS: Anyone wishing to join the U.F.O.I.C. can do so by contacting Mr. Moser, the Secretary, at P.O. Box E170, St. James, Sydney 2000 . . . or by coming to the next meeting in Science House, Gloucester Street, or by coming to one of the members' Social gatherings at the Railway Institute — you don't HAVE to be a member to attend any of these functions but we think it would tempt you to join.

ASTRONOMERS AND U.F.O.'s

By William Moser, President of the British Astronomical Association and General Secretary of UFOIC.

(Continued from UFOIC Newsletter No. 37)

February 7, 1884: Astronomers at Brussels Observatory, Belgium did notice from that day until Feb. 16th, an extremely bright spot on the planet which moved away from it on the 16th February.

March 7th, 1893: The French Astronomer Raymond Coulon saw at Val de la Haye Observatory, France, a clearly defined object, looking like an elongated pear, of an iridescent and luminous nature. He could not explain it.

July 31st, 1896: At Smith Observatory, U.S.A., Astronomers noticed a dark circular disc-shaped object going across the Moon's surface very quickly, timed at about four seconds, which should prove it's closeness to Earth.

Coming back to the MOON and various observations of lights, etc., it might be possible to check up in England on the fact that in the Seventies or so of the 19th Century an Astronomer, BIRT, deposited at the Royal Astronomical Society, over 1500 observations of lights, moving objects and changes of brightness, mostly in the crater PLATO, which is with its' about 60 miles diameter quite a prominent feature of the MOON.

To mention a few sightings in the 20th Century.

December 24th, 1909: An amateur astronomer, James Ferguson, of Limerick, Eire, saw for twenty minutes distinctly a brilliant object in the north-east above the horizon travelling south and finally disappearing at 2.05 a.m.

In 1912: Astronomer F.B. Harris wrote to the Times that he saw a large black object of an elongated shape whilst he was observing the Moon.

March 14th, 1916: At Cordoba Observatory the Astronomers Purine and Glancy noticed an object, similar to a comet near the Zenith, whose presence they could not explain.

1919 approximately: Mr. Erwin Schoen, a native of Austria and now a resident for many years in Australia approached me after the visit in 1967 by Prof. J. McDonald of Arizona University, with the following facts — while hiking near the Austrian ammunition town of Steyr with friends he saw during the First World War, a round object, similar to the size of the full Moon, cruising like doing observations over Steyr. He was on a mountain at the time and remembers that the object seemed to rotate, afterwards moving in one direction. Visible 2 — 4 minutes. Steyr is probably the principal ammunition centre of Austria and has been for many years. Mr. Schoen is a Wholesaler in a NSW Country town, now over 70 years of age and felt this sighting of his should not be lost to posterity. Unfortunately more facts cannot be remembered, owing to lapse of time.

June 24th, 1947: Interesting to note that the same day that Kenneth Arnold had his sighting of "Flying Saucers", the Astronomer Fred Johnson in Oregon declared to have seen similar objects.

July 10th, 1947: An elliptical UFO was seen by the Astronomer Dr. Lincoln La Paz and his family near Port Sumner, New Mexico, by car with wife and child. He saw a luminous unknown object sort of oscillating beneath the clouds. It's brightness was stronger than the Planet Jupiter and its shape regular and elliptical. The nature of this object was unknown to the Astronomer.

April 24th, 1949: Charles Moore, a highly qualified Meteorologist, whilst launching a weather-balloon saw an elongated object at White Sands Proving Grounds, crossing the horizon in about one minute. The sighting was seen by five others. Similar sightings were also at the same place earlier that month, but not too many details are at hand.

August 20th, 1949: Clyde Tombaugh, discoverer of the planet Pluto in 1930 saw at about 10.45 p.m. while sitting outside his home at Las Cruces, New Mexico with his wife and Mother-in-law, between six and eight greenish objects which were travelling soundlessly across the sky. He said that in all the hours observing celestial bodies he had never seen anything like it.

May 22nd, 1950: Seymour Hess, an Astronomer at Flagstaff Observatory, Arizona, saw a metallic looking disc, unexplainable to him.

To be finalised in the next Newsletter — (Editor).

Sighting Report from Stephen, aged 11, who is a member of the Astronomy Club of the ULTIMO MUSEUM.

On the 11th June, 1972, my friend and I sighted a UFO. We viewed it from 7.45 to 8.08 p.m. From Beta Centauri it went practically due South, varying from bright, approx. 2nd magnitude at 7.45 to invisible to the naked eye at 8.00 and back to fairly bright again a little later. From Beta Centauri to about 40 degrees above the horizon the UFO was fairly bright but had a very inconsistent speed. The maximum speed was approx 10 degrees per minute in the sky after this the brightness and speed changed immensely. The brightness varied from invisible to the naked eye to fairly bright. It's speed lowered considerably and only a few times gained the speed it gained earlier. We stopped viewing it when it was about 10 degrees above the southern horizon. To the naked eye it just looked like an ordinary star but through my telescope (60mm object lense and 20mm eyepiece refractor) it looked like an elastic band expanding and contracting. My age is 11 and my friend's is 14. Weather permitting we view together on the weekends, and are members of the Astronomy Club at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences.

Sighting Report from a Lady who lives near Sydney.

June 19th, 1972 — I was driving my family from a Youth Meeting. It was approx 7.15 p.m. It was quite dark and rather cloudy and a mist was coming up. We spotted an extremely bright light, red in colour which moved quite swiftly ahead and to the right of my car. As I kept moving slowly, the object veered further to the right and away from us slightly. I stopped the car. The object appeared to stop and hover over the built-up housing settlement. I distinctly saw the red light changing to a bright white, like a big star. I made out a very faint outline which looked like a nose-cone. The light seemed to be at the back and seemed to obliterate part of the craft. I distinguished one or two tiny white pinpricks of light on the nose-cone which looked like little windows. The object seemed to hover a few seconds and then it shot away from us heading towards Blacktown. We lost it when it disappeared. I think it went behind a clump of trees, but it was just a dark mass so I am not sure. The object seemed to have a glow around it. My three young sons saw this object as well as I. The youngest boy, six, said he saw green lights too. I doubt this. My oldest son, eleven, said he thought he saw sparks in the bright light. Their comments may be doubtful but I assure you their sighting and mine is genuine. I now have three sons who refuse to sleep in a darkened house and who absolutely refuse to leave the house of a night without me. When the object moved again the white light turned by the way again to red. If you wish to use my report for discussion do so by all means, but I'd appreciate my name being withheld as I wish to protect my family from ridicule as I'm sure you will understand. (*Ed says that surely we have matured by now*).

Composed by Mrs. Lyn Malet on joining UFOIC — Sydney

Where did you come from strangers in the skies?
I see your shining discs, and I can't believe my eyes.
Why do you watch us from far above the Earth?
Was it really you who gave us human birth?
Do you watch with sorrow the Wars that rape our land?
Do you see the degradation and cannot understand?
You were here among us, prophets from above,
To show us how to live with compassion and with love.
But we crucified your teachers, burned your gentle saints;
We would not, will not learn, and our evil taints
This planet that is so green and fair,
So you watch, and wait, high in the clean, clear air.
Our scientists tell us you're an illusion,
That we suffer from a strange delusion.
Satellites, balloons, reflections on a mist,
How can we believe that such things exist?
Dreams of flying saucers, of a strange galactic race,
Born of science-fiction Writers, of aliens from space.
But I KNOW what I have seen up there,
I FEEL the sorrow and the love they share,
Perhaps when this World of ours is sane again,
They will land and walk among us without fear or pain.

Mrs. Malet is a resident of ALICE SPRINGS, Northern Territory.

Reports by Barry Taylor, UFOIC member and Vice President of UFORPA, N.S.W.

A Katooma couple contacted us saying that they have witnessed many UFO sightings, mainly concentrated over the last three months and insisted that we came and visit them. So nine members of our group headed west for a suspected cold Skywatch at Katoomba. When we arrived we were greeted by a very excited couple who immediately showed us the area where they had witnessed many aerial phenomena in the past. Our attention was immediately drawn to a row of four yellowish-white lights suspended above the Plateau towards Wentworth Falls direction, overlooking Wentworth Falls and Burragorang Valley from what must be the best vantage point in the area. We could see that these four lights were suspended above the plateau and were not part of a road or buildings. This was the 4th night that these lights were seen hovering there. I immediately set up my camera with a 1200mm telephoto lens and proceeded to snap photographs. I also placed one of Dr. Herbisens-Evans FRAS Spectrum grating slides over the camera lens hoping to capture the colour spectrum of these strange looking lights. The four lights were also observed through powerful binoculars and appeared to be rectangular lights and their formation appeared to be from an object which was curved or round, we immediately named these lights from a mothership purely for reference. Reference points were taken in relation to the mothership for observation at first light, expecting they may still possibly be from a high building. On either side of the four lights at times a single light was seen slowly approaching, then stopping and would return to original position, this also being white. The window of the so-called mothership would occasionally flare up one at a time, then die down to its original brightness. Further to the right over the Burrogorang Plateau where there is only virgin bushland and unpopulated we observed a number of very bright yellowish-white lights, which would flare up very bright, then die down and eventually go out. These were single lights at a time only, but there were many observed at different parts along the top or above the plateau. Our host has been through the area where the lights were and said there were no roads or homes in that area. I took photographs of the single lights. When dawn broke we could not see the four lights, they were stationary all night but at first light they just went out, but we could see that this row of lights was definitely not a building but was something suspended in the air with no visible support. What it was we do not know. I have photographs of the single lights, and an interesting point about them is that they have the same colours as one of the USA recognised UFO photographs taken by the astronauts, with white to yellow in the centre, orange to red towards the edges, with a point of green on the top edge. So it was worthwhile bearing the 32° temperature at Katoomba, not only for the photographs, but also the warm hospitality of these two people who had many more fascinating sightings to tell us, which I will continue in UFOIC's next Newsletter.

— Barry Taylor, Vice President, UFORPA, NSW.

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BOOKS

Excerpts from Book "Gods, Demons and UFO's" by Eric Norman, Lancer Books, New York — page 116

Australia's Secret City — BURRUNGU — is the City of 'Taboos' which the Australian Aborigines claim is hidden in the remote hinterlands of Northern Australia. Orthodox Archaeology informs us that the civilization did not arrive in Australia until the Portuguese landed there in 1601. Yet, according to the Australian Weekend News, three white men who have visited the ruins of this alleged city reported ruined walls, stone houses, wide courtyards, and stately arches that look down upon statues set along tree-shaded streets.

Legends of the aborigines tell of white men living in the city many thousands of years ago . . . "That were so tall that they needed very big buildings" . . . the natives claimed. "The city is taboo — it was once a place of much activity."

Could this have been a prehistoric outpost in the boondocks of Australia for some race of aliens from other worlds? The thinly populated continent would have been perfect for such a base.

John Mager, Editor of the Canadian UFO Report, writes —

Whenever I begin to wonder what I am doing in this elusive, frustrating U.F.O. business, and why I never see one of the mysterious things myself, I use a remedy that never fails. I go out into the country and start tracking down witnesses who have had better luck. Since starting Canadian U.F.O. Report four years ago, I have interviewed hundreds of such persons, many of them reluctant to talk about their experience, and I return from each trip with a renewed feeling that the greatest experience known to man is happening almost without our realizing it. I am convinced that these visitors have been coming here for thousands of years, that they have probably colonized this planet with their own kind — namely us — and that they gain propulsive energy from our world to explore and colonize others still more distant. We on earth are at the outermost brink of planning to do the same.

On the morning of 4th September, 1972

At approx. 3.30 a.m. I first caught a glance of a bright star and fairly close to it at the same level, a diffused light of oblong proportions — it was the oblong shape which attracted my attention rather than 'star'. As I came on to a different section of road I once again viewed the same two lights and stopped the vehicle to look. As I observed these lights for perhaps up to 5 minutes that which was the oblong or defused light started in some way to grow in very small "jerks" from a top segment of moon to the whole segment. Whilst I was watching I had several thoughts — one would immediately pass it off as clouds moving across its surface, but then they are usually across and not down, and also as a more or less steady movement, also more apparent with a larger moon and not with such a small segment as it proved to be by observation the following morning when quite clear of clouds. As the 'growing' effect continued to the base it started to grow round the bottom edge and at the same time get much brighter and perhaps a clearer outline. It could be best described as a fairly large and bright half-moon, sitting horizontally, the bottom half very bright and with weak rays of light coming out below it. I watched it for 3 to 4 minutes and it appeared to move and gradually disappeared by moving off directly away from me.

— "MR. X"

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Taralga sighting reported at 4.45 a.m. on the morning of Wednesday 13th September, 1972, an object was sighted which remained absolutely motionless. It was about 45° from the horizon and seemed semi-transparent rather than solid. There was no sound, and after a few seconds clouds covered it, it was due East from Taralga. (*Compliments of the Tarraville U.F.O. Association*).

Also linking this story is the report in the Australasian Post, October 26th, 1972, giving some information about the Air Force investigators' findings, and they mention the Taree sightings, which, we are told, were Venus, but about the same time there were sightings at Taralga, one on Monday September 11th at 10 p.m. and one about 17 miles from Taralga before dawn on the same date. These sightings were made by groups of people so they can't all be imagination.

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From Hong Kong we had sighting reports. One on September 24th, 1972, seen by Flight Captain and crew, 'when cruising at 31,000 feet and 315 nautical miles south-east of Okinawa . . . they described it as a formless blueish-white object travelling at "outer space speed". It remained in sight about a minute and during this time pieces appeared to be breaking from it.'

Also from Hong Kong and on the same night came a very detailed sighting by a young man, who obviously often watches for U.F.O.'s and this night about 9 p.m. he noticed what seemed to be a red star below the moon, and then a second red star to the left. Then the two stars began flashing, and switching on and off like a light bulb. Then the first star moved downwards giving off what seemed a bright orange tail. He watched these stars for quite some time, ascending, descending, and after about half an hour he had to go inside. They could be called the Flashing Red Stars.

PUBLIC MEETINGS will in 1973 be held in SCIENCE HOUSE, in Gloucester Street. Dates so far arranged will be JUNE 5th, AUGUST 17th (Professor Hynek), OCTOBER 2nd.

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COMMITTEE to note that committee meetings now usually take place on the 4th WEDNESDAY of the month, unless notified otherwise. Please turn up at 6 p.m. on time.

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A NOTE TO EVERYONE

*It is imperative that CHANGES OF ADDRESS are notified in writing to the Hon. Gen. Secretary.
P.P. Box E170, St. James, Sydney 2000.*

FOR SALE

Badges and Car stickers \$1 each. Plenty of interesting magazines. Flying Saucer Review U.K. 75 cents. Quest 50 cents. Caveat Emptor 60 cents. Space link Vol. 6-4 45 cents, and many more.

AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE

Dr. Keith Bigg of the CSIRO, a friend of UFOIC, reported that a girl and her father, known to him, saw four objects, 2 whiteish and 2 greenish, just after the earthquake. These were seen over Balgowlah way.

SPREADING THE NEWS

It is interesting how word gets around about UFO's, and one way is through Bill Moser, our extra busy Gen. Secretary. So far this year he has given 22 talks on UFO's. He was at the "View Club" in Bexley in February, and he will be there again on April 10th. He certainly gets around and spreads the news too.

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GOSFORD BRANCH — The Central Coast U.F.O. Research Bureau — their address is:
P.O. Box 546, Gosford, N.S.W. 2250

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Facts about UFO sightings in GLADSTONE

Many sightings began in early March. They are frequently seen between 7 pm. and 10 pm. UFO's were sighted at between 30,000 and 50,000 ft., travelling at an estimated speed of between 1500 and 2000 m.p.h. Recently every rooftop was bathed in an intense blue light. The light was visible at Raglan and Yarwun. Several UFO's were sighted flying close together and were easily distinguishable from satellites. Some reports of low flying UFO's have come from Raglan. On one occasion a UFO (30 ft. in diameter) was spotted. It was 500 ft. above the observer. An aircraft approached and the UFO appeared interested in the flight pattern. A bright torch was shone at the UFO. It stopped, hovered and disappeared. Raglan possesses rich mineral deposits which may be attracting the UFO's.

A UFO was sighted by five people — cylindrical object issuing red glow on one side and a yellow-red glow on the other side. Travelled towards the alumina plant. It cast an eerie light 'beneath it'. First appeared at an angle of 30°, it reached an angle of 70° before disappearing straight up. An illuminated weather balloon had been released that night.

Over 30 UFO's have been spotted by Mr. Warren, but information is sparse and not many details.

Report from new member from FORESTVILLE—suburb of Sydney, N.S.W. (11/1/73

I wish to relate the following observation. At about 9.30—10.00 p.m. on the night of December 24th 1972 I was standing on the balcony of the Nelson Bay Lodge Motel when I noticed an apparently stationary bright star move in a zig zag manner slowly across the sky for a period of approximately seven seconds before it gradually dimmed and finally disappeared. I called my wife who was nearby and she also saw this phenomenon. I regret that I am unable to give direction of travel.

SAMPLES OF RECENT UFO REPORTS (1972) Currently Averaging 6 to 50 per hour worldwide

by George D. Fawcett, 607 North Main St., Mount Airy, N.C. 27030. USA. Mount Airy, N.C. 27030. USA.

August 10 — Spokane, WASHINGTON STATE (Fairchild Air Force Base tracked on radar a high-speed UFO that was seen by pilots, Air Force officers and thousands of witnesses in the area.

August 16 — St. Michael, Norton Sound, ALASKA (Eskimo scout and his wife reported the landing of a football-shaped UFO. It had a cockpit, a large window and red lights on each end. The UFO left a 3 foot in diameter depression on ground and burned grass. Army engineers are conducting tests of soil, grass and water samples. The UFO stayed for 5 minutes on ground).

August 22 — Gem, KANSAS (Store manager was awakened by dogs barking. Saw a saucer-shaped UFO 150 feet from his home. It was about 25—35 feet in diameter, 15—20 feet tall and had a dome on top. As it departed it gave off a 'beeping sound').

August 24 — Heald Green, ENGLAND (Couple see glowing melon-shaped UFO with a tapering base and a 'T'-shaped door that landed in a nearby field. When the door began to open the witnesses fled in a terrified panic).

August 28 — Pimba, AUSTRALIA (Witness cried and shook as she told of a landing of circular green UFO, about 33 feet in diameter that stood on tripod legs on the ground nearby and then took off. This landing still under investigation by authorities there.

September 8 — Olympia, WASHINGTON STATE (15 year old boy reported a round UFO with markings on it that flew overhead and made a 'buzzing sound'. It gave off an 'electric shock' that hit him in the chest. Police referred the witness to a local physician).

August 26 — Waukesha, WISCONSIN (Boy and his girl friend watch large orange circular UFO (20 to 30 feet in diameter) take off with a 'beeping sound'. Car motor, lights, horn and radio cease functioning. When UFO left the area motor only worked properly).

September 12 — Miami and Palm Beach, FLORIDA (Sheriff deputies, Eastern Airline pilots, FAA authorities, control tower operators reported large number of domed UFOs with red exhaust trails, small portholes, maneuvered overhead. One of the UFOs appeared to be cigar-shaped. Jets and helicopters were sent up in pursuit. The UFOs were seen through binoculars and tracked on three separate radar screens located at Palm Beach, Miami Control Centre and at Homestead Air Force Base. A 'glowing circular object' was seen at West Palm Beach).

September 15 — Burlington, COLORADO (Farm family reported the landing of a UFO, bright-white and 'big as a house' in a field of tall grass. It was round and gave off 'rays of light').

Report from an ORANGE member received 14/3/73

I saw a light in the sky which I strongly suspect as being a UFO. It was travelling at about satellite speed on a heading of 67° E.N.E. on Saturday 20th January, 1973, when it suddenly changed its heading at a very acute angle to 270°W. The angle was too acute for any aircraft. Also it headed in the Westerly direction at a much accelerated speed. The object was first sighted about 45° in a S.S.E. direction and last sighted at a 90° elevation heading West when it disappeared. There were no clouds. This was at the Orange Drive-In.

FEES: Please note Fees \$5 per year are NOW OVERDUE. Please send your remittance soon.

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U.F.O.I.C. needs — Helpers for the Newsletter — Helpers at the Public Meetings — Sighting Reports to be sent in — not just rumoured and forgotten — Books outstanding to be returned to the Library — Enthusiasm — Helpers to go on the Committee — We also need people on committee to do something towards the Association, such as attending the committee meetings occasionally!